

# Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge

## Public Use Regulations 2013-2014

### Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge

Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), established in 1975, is located in southeast Arkansas, approximately eight miles west of the town of Crossett. Named for a small community located at its southwest corner, this 65,000 acre refuge contains an abundance of wildlife resources associated with bottomland and upland habitats dominated by the Ouachita and Saline Rivers. All users are permitted on the Refuge in accordance with State and Federal regulations as supplemented by the following special Refuge regulations.

### General Regulations

Public use regulations are designed to protect the sportsman and wildlife populations. The regulations below supplement the general regulations which govern all public uses on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable State regulations subject to the following conditions.

Individuals with fish and wildlife related violations may be denied permits for any Refuge activity.

### Permits

Refuge Access permits are required for all Refuge users. When signed and in your possession, the cover section of this

brochure serves as your permit for all Refuge hunts (except all Quota Hunts) and other permissible activities, and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Quota Hunt permits are additional and are required for the Gun Deer hunt as well as the Gun turkey hunts. There is a \$12.50 fee per permit. Permits are non-transferable and non-refundable. Applications for the Quota Deer Hunt permits will be accepted from July 8, 2013 through August 12, 2013. Applications for the Quota Turkey Hunt Permits will be accepted from January 2, 2014 - January 31, 2014.

Unclaimed Quota Hunt Permits, if available, may now be purchased on a first come first serve basis during the two weeks prior to the scheduled Hunts. See website for more details. **NEW**

### How to Apply for Quota Hunts:

#### Online Applications:

You can now apply for Quota Hunts online at <http://www.fws.gov/Felsenthal>. Online applications are the quickest and easiest way to apply and provide you with a confirmation number for your records once your application is complete. If at all possible, complete an online application. For questions or concerns with any and all application issues, call Kinsail Co. at 703/994 4194.

### Paper Applications:

If needed, you may also receive a paper application by calling the Refuge office at 870/364 3167. If you choose to submit a paper application, it must be received, not postmarked, by August 12, 2013 for the deer hunts and January 31, 2014 for the turkey hunts. Completed applications and money must be sent to Felsenthal NWR, c/o Kinsail Corporation, 6841 Elm Street, PO Box #1092, McLean, VA 22101. Be sure to clearly and accurately complete all the information on the application form as incomplete or illegible applications will be discarded. Online applications are strongly encouraged to ensure that applications are received in a timely and complete manner.

### Group Applications:

Up to five hunters may apply as a Hunt party. If you are applying online, you will be able to enter the other members of your group during the online application process. You will only need to enter your Hunt selections once during the process, but you will need the name and address information for the other hunters in your group. Any online applications that are received separately will be treated as separate groups. If you are applying by paper application form, you will need to complete a separate application form for each hunter in your group and submit them all together to the address listed above.

**This is an annual permit. To save tax dollars, please use this permit for the entire season.**

Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge  
5531 Highway 82 West  
Crossett, AR 71635  
870/364 3167

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1 800/344 WILD  
<http://www.fws.gov/felsenthal>

May 2013



### Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge 2013-2014 Refuge Access Permit Expires May 1, 2014

When signed and in your possession, this portion of the brochure will serve as your permit for all refuge hunts and other permissible activities, and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

### Signature

Permits are not transferable and are valid only when signed.

# 2013-2014 Felsenthal Hunting Season

Type	Season Dates	Specific Regulations
Duck, Goose and Coot	State Duck and Teal Season (including the State Youth Hunt)  Geese and Coots can be taken during state duck season when state seasons for these species are open.	Hunters may not enter the hunting area before 4 am. Hunting ends at noon each day. Only portable blinds are permitted. All duck hunting equipment (blinds, boats, guns, decoys, etc.) must be removed by 1:30 pm each day, either to a designated camping area, vehicle or off the refuge. Unlawful to discharge or possess more than 25 shotshells per day except during Refuge Waterfowl Youth Hunt. September teal season shooting hours are from sunrise until noon. Closed during quota hunts.
Squirrel and Rabbit	9/1/2013 – 1/31/2014 (spring squirrel season closed)	Dogs allowed December 1, 2013 - January 31, 2014. Closed during quota deer hunts.
Quail	11/1/2013 - 1/31/2014	Closed during quota deer hunts.
Woodcock	State Season	State bag limit applies. Closed during quota deer hunts.
Raccoon and Opossum	Sunset 11/13/2013 – 1/31/2014	Use of dogs required during hours of darkness. Closed during quota deer hunt.
Deer Archery/Crossbow (Zone 220)	9/28/2013 – 1/31/ 2014	Either sex for entire season, state bag limit applies. A doe must be harvested on the refuge and checked before harvesting a buck. Closed during quota deer hunts. See legal buck definition.
Deer (Muzzleloader) (Zone 220)	10/19 – 23/2013	Bag limits two deer (2 does or 1 buck & 1 doe). A doe must be harvested on the refuge and checked in at the refuge check station before harvesting a buck. Archery, crossbow and muzzleloader permitted. See legal buck definition.
Deer (Gun) (Zone 220)	11/9 - 12/2013	Quota permit required. Bag limits is two deer (2 does or 1 buck & 1 doe). Doe must be harvested on the refuge and checked in at the refuge check station before harvesting a buck. Archery, crossbow and muzzleloader permitted. See legal buck definition.
Turkey (Spring) (Archery/Crossbow) (Zone 220)	Spring State Season for Turkey (Zone 9)	Closed during quota gun turkey hunts. State bag limit applies. Fall archery season closed.
Turkey (Spring) (Gun) (Zone 220)	Youth Quota Hunt – <b>first two days</b> of state youth season	Quota permit required. Youth hunt restricted to youths, 15 years of age and younger (age at opening of state-wide youth turkey season 2014) accompanied by one adult 21 years or older. Turkeys must be checked in accordance with state turkey hunt regulations. Bag limit is one (1) bearded turkey.
	Gun Hunt - <b>first three days</b> of state season. (Zone 9)	Quota permit required. No one may accompany permit holder while hunting. Turkeys must be checked in accordance with state turkey hunt regulations. Bag limit is one (1) bearded turkey. No jakes.
Trapping	Sunrise 11/13/2013 - 1/31/2014	Refuge Special Use Permit required and available at refuge office. Closed during quota deer hunts.
Beaver, Nutria, Feral Hogs, Coyote	Any refuge hunt	May be taken <b>incidental</b> to any <b>daytime</b> refuge hunt ( <b>without the use of dogs</b> ) with legal hunting equipment and ammunition allowed for that hunt. No bag limit. Live hogs may not be transported or possessed.

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Only complete the Hunt selections on one application.

Any paper applications that are received separately will be treated as separate groups.

*Please note, submissions of any person's name more than once for the same Hunt Type will result in disqualification.*

### Commercial/Special Use Activities

No person, including but not limited to a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, or other organization shall provide assistance, services, or equipment on the refuge to any other person for compensation. For the purpose of this regulation, any fee paid or services rendered to a person for lodging, meals, club membership or similar services will be considered compensation. Violations of this regulation subjects each hunter in the party to a fine if convicted of this violation.

A Refuge Special Use Permit is required for all commercial activities on the Refuge including but not limited to commercial fishing, fishing tournaments, trapping, filming, photography, collecting plants or parts of plants or mussels. Permits may be obtained by contacting our Refuge Headquarters with a formal request. All Special Use Permit applications will be subject to a two week turn-around time.

### Motor Vehicles

All motor vehicles are restricted to normal passenger vehicle roads. Roads and trails may be closed to vehicle use due to periods of high water, during wildfire occurrences or other natural events that may pose a hazard to public safety. All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) and Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) are allowed on trails designated by ATV signs and marked with yellow or blue paint. The use of ATV/UTV's are restricted to wildlife-dependant recreation only. Trails marked by yellow paint are open September 1, 2013 - January 31, 2014. Trails marked with blue paint are open year round to access areas for hunting and fishing. We define an ATV and a UTV as an off road vehicle (not legal for highway use) with factory specifications not to exceed the following: engine size 700cc displacement, a width of 63" or less, and tires with maximum 1" lug height and maximum allowable tire pressure of 6 psi. Bicycles are permitted on roads and designated open trails. The maximum legal speed for any land vehicle is 25 mph.

### Firearms/Ammunition

Persons may only use (discharge) firearms during authorized hunting seasons while attempting to take game species. All hunting weapons used on the refuge must comply with state regulations for each game species. Possession of shot larger than that legal for waterfowl hunting is prohibited. Lead shot is prohibited Refuge wide except during quota turkey hunts. Only rimfire rifles no larger than .22 caliber and shotguns are permitted except during the muzzleloader and gun deer hunts when hunting equipment legal for these hunts is also permitted. The use or possession of buckshot is prohibited Refuge-wide.

### Camping

Camping (including overnight houseboat use) is permitted only in designated primitive camping areas and in conjunction with on-refuge wildlife-dependant activities, (see map). Camping area entrances are marked by signs and boundaries are marked with ORANGE paint. Campers may stay no more than fourteen (14) days during any thirty (30) consecutive-day period in any campground. Camps must be occupied daily. All disturbances, including the use of generators, are prohibited after 10 pm. Camping on the refuge while hunting off the refuge is not permitted. Campfires are permitted only in camping areas and must be attended. Only downed wood may be used for fires. Caution: During periods of high fire danger, all fires may be prohibited.

### Fire Management

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages fire to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats, while first ensuring human safety and then protecting our facilities and neighboring communities. Refuge fire activity can be expected during the months of October through May. Felsenthal visitors are asked to be mindful of any and all fire activity while on the Refuge. Certain areas of the Refuge may be temporarily closed or have restricted access due to fire activity. For current and updated information see our contact information.

### Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

Felsenthal visitors are encouraged to explore our natural resources by way of birding, canoeing, hiking, photography and observation. While the Refuge continuously strives to better provide these opportunities, please feel free to contact us for the most up to date

information and accommodations. All ATV/UTV trails are open to foot traffic year round.

### Animals/Pets

Dogs are allowed for hunting migratory birds, quail, squirrel, rabbit, raccoons and opossum during designated seasons only. Dogs and other pets not being utilized for wildlife-dependant recreation must be on a leash.

Horses may be used on roads open to vehicles and trails that are open to ATV's/UTV's for on-refuge wildlife-dependent activities only.

Horses are prohibited during the muzzleloader and gun deer hunts.

### The following activities are prohibited on Felsenthal NWR:

- Littering
- The use of Airboats is prohibited during the months of October through March. **NEW**
- Spotlighting - artificial light may not be used to locate wildlife. Exception: raccoon and opossum hunting during open season when treed by a dog, and bow fishing.
- Possession, placement, or hunting over bait, salt or any ingestible attractant.
- Use of deer decoys.
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting; consumption of alcohol in parking lots and on roadways; consumption of alcohol in plain view in campgrounds.
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages by minors is prohibited.
- Fishing or swimming from any boat ramp. **NEW**
- Taking of wildlife or plants (including cutting trees or brush) other than specified in this brochure. Exception: berry picking.
- Possession or use of herbicides.
- Marking trails with tape, ribbons, paint or any other substance other than biodegradable material. Exception: marking trails with thumbtack (bright eyes) is authorized.
- Use or possession of any electronic call or other electronic device used for producing or projecting vocal sounds of wildlife.
- Drive or screw a nail, spike or other metal object into a tree or to hunt from any tree in which such an object has been driven.



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

- Conducting or participating in deer drives. A deer drive is defined as a deliberate action by one or more persons (whether armed or unarmed) whose intent is to cause deer to move within firearm range of one or more participating hunters.
- Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts.
- Possession of a deer or any firearms, archery tackle or crossbows on the refuge during a quota deer hunt without a valid quota permit.
- Disposing unused portions of game, or fish within 300 yards of any boat ramp, parking lot or campground.
- Leaving any tree stand or game camera on the refuge without owners name and address clearly marked on the outside.
- Pursue, take, or attempt to take hogs with the use of dogs is prohibited.
- Target practice with any firearms, archery tackle and crossbows or any non-hunting discharge of firearms.
- Firearms, including state permitted concealed carry handguns are prohibited in all refuge offices and buildings.

### Specific Hunting Regulations

- State bag limits apply unless otherwise noted. Only those species listed in this brochure may be taken.
- Areas posted with "No Hunting Zone" signs are closed to all hunting.
- Hunting from an area where a shooting lane has been cut is prohibited.
- Hunting within 150 feet of any road and trail open to motor vehicle use (including ATV/UTV trails) is prohibited. Big game hunting within 150 feet of any pipeline is prohibited.
- A hunter born after 1968 must carry a valid Hunter Education Card. Hunters under 16 years old do not need to have a card if they are under the direct supervision (within arms reach) of a holder of a valid hunting license of at least 21 years of age. Youth hunters under the age of 16 who have a valid Hunter Education Card must also be supervised by an adult not less than 21 years old but must only be in sight and normal voice contact with the adult. An adult may supervise only one youth for big game hunting and up to two youths for waterfowl and small game. Home state Hunter Education Cards will be honored.

- For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge the hunter will immediately (prior to moving the animal) complete the hunting license information using 220 as the zone of kill and use the same number at the official state check station as zone of kill.

### Deer

- Legal Buck Definition and Bag Limit: the total number of bucks that can be harvested through a combination of all refuge deer hunts is two (these are not bonus deer). Legal buck is any male deer. First deer harvested on the Refuge must be a doe and must be checked with the Refuge and in accordance with state regulation before you can harvest a buck.
- All deer harvested on the Refuge during the archery season must be checked on the day of kill by calling 870/415 1854. **NEW**
- Deer harvested during the muzzleloader and Quota deer hunts must be checked at a Refuge check station.
- Deer stands may be placed on the Refuge starting on the opening day of archery season and must be removed by January 31. Limit is one deer stand per person. Marking stands with name and address still applies. **NEW**
- Portable, pop-up blinds, must have 144 square inches of blaze orange or chartreuse visible from all sides of the blind during firearms big-game seasons on the Refuge. **NEW**

### Waterfowl

- Possession of more than 25 shot shells on persons or in vehicle is prohibited for all hunters during waterfowl hunting season.
- Waterfowl hunters must remain at their vehicle until 4 am if accessing hunting area by foot or ATV/UTV. Hunters accessing their hunting area buy boat may only leave ramp in designated areas (see map).

### Physically Challenged Hunters

Physically challenged users are encouraged to consult with Refuge staff at the Refuge Headquarters for available options and alternatives that may make their visit more enjoyable. Mobility Impaired Access permits are available and are required to gain special access due to disabilities.

### Waterfowl Sanctuary

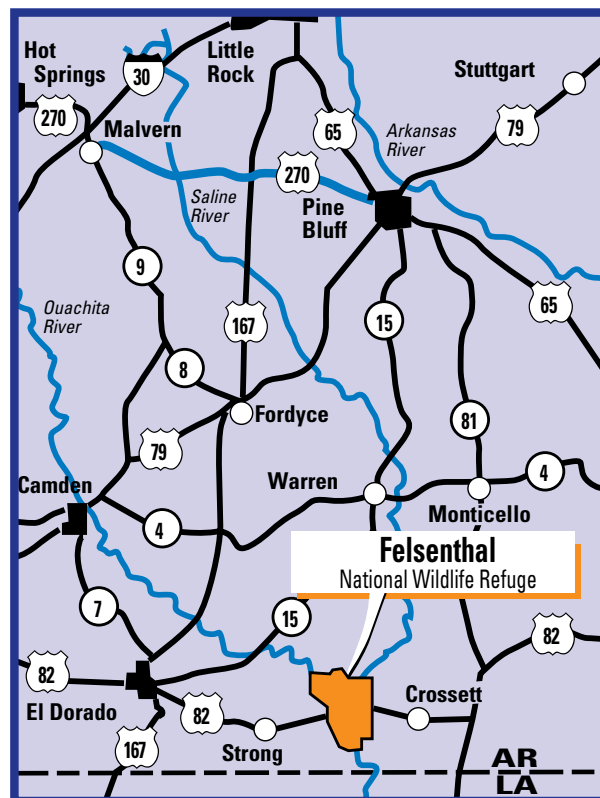
This area is posted with "Area Closed" signs. The waterfowl sanctuary is closed to all public entry (including fishing and frogging) during regular duck hunting season, and is open to all authorized activities during September teal season. For current and updated information see our contact information below.

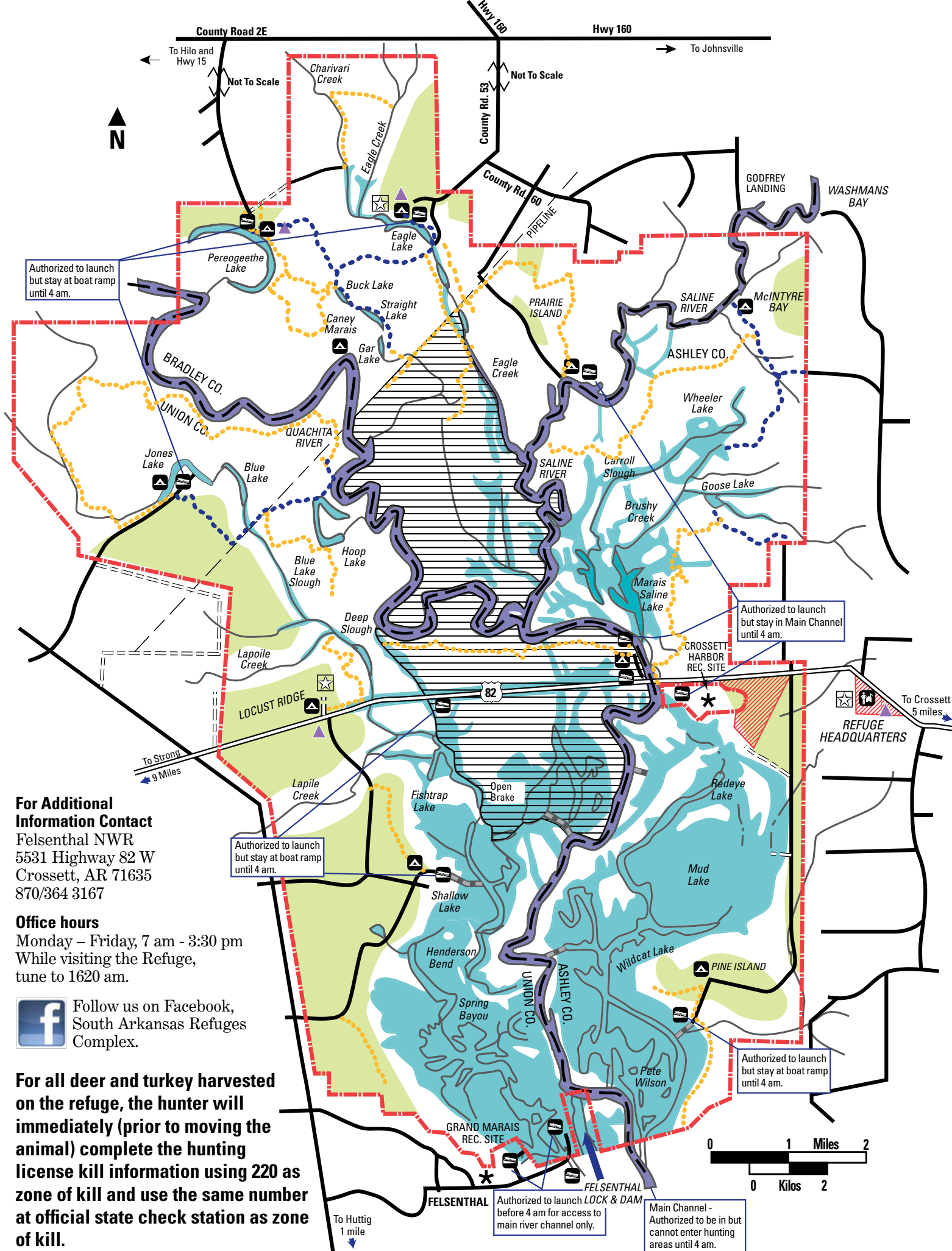
### Sport Fishing and Frogging

Sport fishing, frogging, and taking of crawfish for personal use are permitted in all Refuge waters in accordance with State regulations. Fishing is permitted year round. All public use, except fishing and access for fishing, closed during Quota Permit Hunts. The main channel of the Ouachita River and the borrow pits along U.S. Highway 82 are open for navigation and fishing year-round (see map).

Recreational fishing in the Locust Ridge, Eagle Lake, and Woodland Trail ponds will be open to youth 12 and under, individuals with disabilities, and seniors 65 and older. The Locust Ridge pond will be subject to closing prior to the Youth Fishing Derby in June (see map for pond locations).

**Caution:** Due to elevated levels of mercury in fish, the Arkansas Department of Health advises caution in the consumption of some species of fish from refuge waters. Call 501/661 2000 for more information.





### For Additional Information Contact

Felsenthal NWR  
5531 Highway 82 W  
Crossett, AR 71635  
870/364 3167

### Office hours

Monday – Friday, 7 am - 3:30 pm  
While visiting the Refuge,  
tune to 1620 am.



Follow us on Facebook,  
South Arkansas Refuges  
Complex.

**For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, the hunter will immediately (prior to moving the animal) complete the hunting license kill information using 220 as zone of kill and use the same number at official state check station as zone of kill.**